

## Birthday Greetings



Dr. L. Berman, eyesight specialist, who resides in the home apartment, Seventh and K streets northwest, was born 22 years ago today. Dr. Berman is prominent in the Elks organization as a member of Local No. 15. He received his professional education in Philadelphia, where he graduated in 1910 and has been practicing in Washington since that time.

## BRITAIN ISOLATED FROM ALL WORLD

Three-Day Celebration Sans Travel, Cables or Wires.

LONDON, Dec. 24.—Great Britain, not content with a mere pre-war Christmas tomorrow, begins celebration of a pre-Victorian holiday. Business is to be suspended for three days. The curtailment of communication was the nearest approach to the olden days when telegraphy was unknown, the cable was not even a wild dream and newspapers were not necessarily bearers of news.

With no interest in what transpires in the rest of the world in the next three days, Great Britain was supposed to settle into an old-fashioned Yuletide, with blazing logs and warming drinks to aid the merriment.

Transportation by rail, steamer and truck was ordered confined to the most necessary business. No mail will be delivered and telegrams will be distributed only at certain hours. Newspapers will be idle Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

Reports of Irish difficulties, complications in France and the Near East, unemployment and all other troubles confronting the government will cease for those three days to worry the ordinary citizen.

All trains leaving the city were packed to capacity today. Guests were leaving for week-end parties in all sections of England. Those at home shuttered their office and shop windows and planned celebrations in London.

Londoners were busy with shopping and travelers hustling to their last and best. Buses and taxis were crowded with people to some stores and homes to the curb with their contributions.

Plan was made for a week-end party in London.

When a Northbound train arrived with the payroll of the Hudson Iron Mine Company, Neale, who is crippled, received the money from the express car. One bandit approached him and putting a revolver to Neale's side took the grip containing the money and started to run.

John Anderson, an assistant at the station, witnessed the theft, and securing a revolver, fired six times at the highwayman. The man fell and is believed to have been wounded.

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## DISTRICT BUDGET APPEALS RECEIVE CLOSE SCRUTINY

Senate Committee Hearings Expected to Continue Several Days.

Investigation of the District budget by the Senate Appropriations subcommittee was prolonged yesterday by the tedious of examining charities and corrections and courts data, presented by George S. Wilson, secretary of the Board of Charities, and the District commissioners. This means that the hearings will continue this week for perhaps several days and a report to Congress before the first of the year will be impossible.

Senator Curtis, chairman of the subcommittee, would not say whether the appeals of District officials for the full appropriations asked in the annual estimates for the year beginning June 30 next are likely to bear fruit, but indicated that the hearings have been very enlightening.

Wants 50-50 Basis.

Commissioner Boardman made an extensive argument in favor of the 50-50 basis of tax relations between the District and Federal government through the passage of a law at the last session for the plan by which the District pays 60 per cent of the District's taxes and the United States 40 per cent. A bill has been introduced in the Senate proposing the re-establishment of the old half-and-half plan.

Miss Boardman told the Senators the capital city served as a home seat for the government, where Federal officials and employees and army and navy people receive the benefits of the streets and the policing, schools and other conveniences; that Washington as a center of beauty, art, literature and culture is of benefit to the nation at large and that the city is as much the nation's as it is those who live here.

Data Given on Courts.

Further information on the items relating to the courts of the District and their connections with charities and corrections, and on the estimates in a general way are to mark the sessions this week. It is understood the District commissioners will be asked to state what in their opinion can be most easily spared of all the vast array of "items," with an explanation by the subcommittee that while the government is willing to do the best it can there will be no escape from the fact that economy is necessary in everything. "We must economize," said a Senator in discussing the proposed District appropriations. "That's all there is to it. But the District commissioners have made a very strong case in their efforts to obtain the full amount asked, so I understand the efforts probably will not be entirely wasted."

## BEACH AGAINST PATUXENT PLAN

Engineers Think the Potomac Best to Increase Water Supply.

Maj. Gen. L. H. Beach, Chief of the Army Engineers, in a letter to the Speaker of the House yesterday, reported that as a result of a thorough investigation, the Army Engineers have decided in favor of the Potomac and against the Patuxent proposal for increasing the water supply of the District.

At the same time Gen. Beach, in a preliminary statement, related to the progress of the survey being conducted by the Engineers into the feasibility of harnessing Great Falls for the production of electrical energy, stated that a conclusion had been reached that this work could be accomplished at a cost cheap enough to be both feasible and economic.

V.A. UNIVERSITY HAS \$25,000 FIRE

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va., Dec. 24.—Fire starting in the furnace room at 4 o'clock this morning practically destroyed a large brick building on the north corner of the west range of the University of Virginia, causing a loss of \$25,000. In the building were the physiological and pharmacological laboratories, and much apparatus was consumed, including all records and correspondence in the office of Dr. J. Alexander Wadell, professor of pharmacology, who is absent in Florida.

There was no wind at the time, or else other laboratories and offices, including that of Dean Hough, of the medical department, and Edgar Allan Poe's room, at 13 West Range, would have been destroyed.

President Alderman and members of that faculty aided in removing records from the laboratories. The burned building is a brick structure, was one of the original designed by Jefferson. In the basement, several years ago, was discovered an entrance to a mysterious subterranean passage-way, leading north.

Gonzaga Trims Alumni.

Gonzaga defeated the alumni yesterday by 37 to 10 in the Gonzaga gym. O'Connor, Byrne and Duffy starred for the winners while Costello, Mills and O'Donoghue did the best work for the losers.

## HOME AND FIRESIDE LURE CITY ON XMAS EVE WHILE CAROLERS CHANT TIDINGS

Streets Deserted Early as Citizens Await Dawning of Green Holiday.

In the pale light of a full December moon, Washington stole home to its firesides early last night and trimmed its Christmas trees for pajama-clad youngsters who nestled under covers dreaming of toys that would come with the dawn.

Don't let its bustle and bargaining, the city silenced its pre-holiday noises and drifted quietly into intimate celebration of the family sort. Downtown was deserted except for a few late shoppers whose wants were quickly satisfied. Theaters played to audiences that were numbered.

During the evening Christmas carolers of social service agencies, under the supervision of the Community Service, caused late farers to pause a moment as their Christmas anthems floated out on the chill air. In the outlying sections trucks carrying lighted Christmas trees and choir singers brought residents to their windows in curiosity and appreciation.

Carolers Sing.

The carolers toured the city through the co-operation of the Jacoby Transfer Company, the Star Line, Semmes Motor Company, Merchants' Transfer Company and the Globe-Wernecke Company whose trucks were placed at their disposal.

In the peacock alleys of the city's hostilities the oft-seemingly homeless for once appeared to have found invitations that took them to their favorite lounges and put them within friendly circles where celebration bid loneliness be gone.

Telegraph offices alone seemed to thrive on the comparative desertion. Inside a wire terminal, Christmas telegrams whose destinations ranged from the stately White House with

## POLICE CHIEF HELD AT PISTOL'S POINT

Prisoner Draws Weapon and Makes Escape at Danville.

DANVILLE, Va., Dec. 24.—Through streets crowded with Christmas shoppers Danville policemen at 5 o'clock this evening engaged in a running pistol battle with Ira Solomon, alleged automobile thief, wanted in Roanoke, who, in the course of the chase, fired thirty shots from an automatic pistol without wounding a soul.

Solomon, doggedly pursued by the officers, was cornered under a house in North Washington. He shot on the officers in the efforts to escape, when Police Detective Campbell attacked him in the dark from the rear and quelled him with a blackjack.

Solomon was taken at 4 o'clock to police headquarters for examination. While a sergeant was telephoning to Roanoke he drew his pistol and, in the chief's sanctum, backed Police Officer Jack Adams into the hall and to the door and with one bound was down the steps. The chase went through the retail district. Several shots were fired back at the officers. The officers dared not fire, but continued their pursuit.

Solomon finally reached Forsham street bridge and here made a stand. The bridge, barred to automobiles, was deserted except for a buggy containing women entering from the far side. Leaning his arm on the railing, he fired fifteen shots with meticulous care, but none found their mark. The officers, in army uniform, proved a strategist. When he found other policemen about to take him from the only exit he had he turned his fire on them.

They could not shoot lest they kill the police behind Solomon. The soldier reached the edge of the bridge and the officers commanded a car and tried to rush him. Solomon, seeing the rush, hailed a passing automobile driven by Jake board, told him to "run like hell," told him to go and Solomon, evading the police, dodged under a house. Residents saw him and gave the clue leading to his capture. He had a pocket full of steel bullets.

Local Supreme Court Adjourns for Holiday

The District Supreme Court adjourned yesterday for the holidays and will not convene again until January 4 except in special instances.

There will be no court calendar published in the Washington Herald until that date unless announcements are posted in the meantime.

A MERRY XMAS to all our friends, and our sincere thanks for the most prosperous season of our career

Invest Your Xmas Money in a Diamond

—and make a big profit on your investment, as diamonds are advancing in value every day.

Thrift Club Terms

Chas. Schwartz & Son

708 7th Street. 3123 M Street.

## PINING FOR GIRL AWAY AT XMAS, FATHER IS SUICIDE

Gift "To Daddy" Lies Near as Eldridge Fires Bullet.

With a Christmas package "To Daddy from Edna" within arm's reach, and still unwrapped in accordance with instructions of the little daughter, Frank W. Eldridge, 41 years old, Apartment 301, 8032 Sixteenth street northwest, killed himself with a pistol-shot to the right temple yesterday morning, because of despondency over the inability of his young daughter to be with him for Christmas.

Today Edna, 11 years old, the daughter, who is with her mother, Eldridge's divorced wife, at Decatur, Ga., will open a Christmas package from "daddy," a Victrola, sent early in the week by Eldridge.

Broods Over Girl's Absence.

Eldridge had been brooding over the absence of his daughter for several days, relatives say, and had made the remark it was "certainly a sad Christmas" Thursday night. He did not go to work yesterday, having been confined to his home for the past three days by illness.

Eldridge was left alone in the apartment by his brother and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Albert D. Eldridge, yesterday morning at 10 o'clock. Mrs. Eldridge returned at 1 o'clock and found the bereaved father lying dead on the floor of his room, a pistol shot from a .38-caliber weapon in his right temple.

Eldridge, who was employed as chief clerk of the United Fruit Growers Express, with offices in the Munsey Building, came here from Greensboro, N. C., six years ago. He was divorced from his wife at that time. The daughter, Edna, has lived with her father during the summer months since and with the mother in winter.

Missed Daughter at Xmas.

Eldridge was very devoted to the daughter, relatives say, and had always been morose at Christmas time and seemed especially so this year. Thursday night he received a package from the daughter. It appeared to intensify his despondency and yesterday he ended his life. He left no word to relatives regarding his action.

Police from No. 10 Precinct and Coroner Nevitt were called by Mrs. Eldridge, sister-in-law, upon discovery of the body. Eldridge was pronounced dead by Coroner Nevitt and a verdict of suicide rendered. Neighbors in the apartment say a sound in the building, thought to have been the death shot, was heard about 11 o'clock, at which time it is thought Eldridge killed himself.

Eldridge is survived by a mother, Mrs. Emma Heath Eldridge, of Charlotte, N. C.; four sisters, Harriet, Fred, Dery and Mrs. Charles Owen Shaw, of Washington; and three brothers, Irving H., of this city; Albert D., with whom he made his home; and Chauncey T., of Danville, Va. The body will be taken to Charlotte, N. C., for burial.

Woman Sues City.

The District of Columbia was sued yesterday in the District Supreme Court for \$5,000 damages by Malvira L. Difendorf, who claims that amount for alleged personal injuries which she claims to have sustained on January 13, last, by falling into a depression in the sidewalk on Euclid street northwest, between Thirteenth and Fourteenth streets northwest. The attorney is M. Walton Hendry.

## Parole for Boys Omits 1—Lonely Yuletide for Him

BOSTON, Dec. 24.—A lonely little figure roamed the deserted dormitories of the boys' reformatory on Rainsford Island here today and wondered what tomorrow will bring him.

Every boy but Jimmy—his real name doesn't matter—was allowed to go home for Christmas. He went down to the wharf and watched them, laughing and chattering, start up the harbor for their homes. Then, his lips quivering and his eyes bright with tears, he trudged slowly back up the hill.

Jimmy is a nice youngster, but he has been bad in his day, and the authorities decided he could not be paroled for Christmas because his mother did not look after him.

Tomorrow Jimmy will have the whole of Rainsford Island to himself. He will be allowed to do as he pleases, and Superintendent Shaughnessy has some secret plans involving a stocking and a Christmas tree which he hopes will make the 9-year-old boy forget the disappointment of not going home.

Shaughnessy himself came to the city today and purchased the tree. It will be set up in the big living room of the reformatory. When Jimmy wakes up tomorrow morning he will find that some of his dreams of Santa Claus will have come true.

Christmas.

It means nothing," stated Christian. "I came home for the holidays and merely took the opportunity of renewing my very pleasant acquaintance with Mr. Tumulty."

Christian likewise attempted to belittle the significance of the visit, but neither of their statements explained why Christian spent two hours in the Executive offices.

Christ was accompanied by Gus J. Karger, newspaper correspondent, who has himself been mentioned as a possibility for the secretaryship.

Church services at the other churches tomorrow will be as follows: Christ, St. Paul's and Grace Episcopal services at 11 o'clock and Holy communion at Grace Church at 7 o'clock. Trinity Methodist Episcopal services at 6:45 o'clock and the Methodist Protestant services at 6 o'clock.

Alexandria Lodge of Elks this afternoon distributed seventy-five baskets to the poor. The Salvation Army distributed fifty baskets.

AMERICA READY TO END RULE OF SANTO DOMINGO

Citizens to Make Own Laws Under Terms of Withdrawal.

The United States is ready to begin withdrawal from control of the government of the Dominican Republic, it was announced by the State Department yesterday.

American forces have occupied Santo Domingo for the last four years.

President Wilson, the announcement stated, has directed Rear Admiral Thomas Snowden, military governor of Santo Domingo, to issue a proclamation in which it is explained that the purpose of the United States in establishing peace and civility in Santo Domingo had been achieved.

Under terms of the withdrawal, the commission of representative Dominican citizens will be appointed to form amendments to the Dominican constitution and revise the laws of the republic, including drafting of a new election law. A technical adviser, who will be an American, will be attached to this commission.

New laws which are recommended by the commission will be submitted to a constitutional convention and to the national congress of the republic, after they are approved by the American military government in occupation.

MIDNIGHT MASSES OPEN CHRISTMAS

ALEXANDRIA, Va., Dec. 24.—The first church services here for Christmas were held at midnight at St. Mary's Church with a solemn high mass.

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COUPON EVERYBODY'S SONG BOOK

For Readers of the Washington Herald

3 COUPONS SECURES AND 98c THE BOOK

PRESENT to this paper OR MAIL with three coupons three ... 98c MAIL ORDERS add for postage within 300 miles, 10c; 600 miles, 15c; farther, 20c. Ask postmaster rate for 3 lbs.

SONGS AT LESS THAN A FIFTH OF A CENT EACH

This big song book of 320 pages contains more than 500 of the beloved old favorite songs of days ago, and many of recent years—all set to music with the original words. The print is sharp and clear; the volume is substantially bound, making a valuable collection of songs that will last forever. Every reader must have a copy before the offer is withdrawn. Get yours TODAY!

A Merry Christmas

Is the hearty wish we extend our friends, patrons and employes

S. Kann Sons Co.

THE BUSY CORNER PENNA. RELAT. 8 TH ST.

Hyattsville Girls Ready To Fight in Next War

Not to be outdone by the boys, the girls at Hyattsville High School have decided to organize a cadet corps. The uniform will consist of navy blue skirt, white middie blouse, blue tan o'shelter with school letters and tan shoes. Commissioned officers will be appointed through competitive examination.

Chamberlain Resting, Following Operation

Following an operation at the Emergency Hospital yesterday Senator George E. Chamberlain, of Oregon, was reported last night to be resting comfortably. The Senator is suffering from kidney trouble and has been in the hospital a week today. He visited yesterday by a stenographer.